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Employment and Labor

Force
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MONTHLY REPORT

STATE OF MONTANA
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
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HELENA MONTANA
59601



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MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

MONTHLY REPORT

FEBRUARY 1977

STATE OF MONTANA

THOMAS L. JUDGE, GOVERNOR

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
Box 1728
Helena, Montana 59601

Volume 7 Number 2

Produced by:
Research and Analysis
in cooperation with the
U. S. Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration
and Bureau of Labor Statistics

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

1. Civilian Labor Force - the number of persons 16 years and older, defined as employed or unemployed, excluding members of the Armed Forces.
2. Employed - those persons who work for pay or profit during a week or, as unpaid family workers, work 15 hours or more during a week. Also included as employed are those who, although not working, had some job attachment and were not looking for work, including persons temporarily absent from a job due to illness, bad weather, vacation, or labor-management dispute, whether or not they were in a pay status during their time off.
3. Unemployment - the number of persons who, for an entire week, did not work at all, were able to work and available for work, and (1) were looking for work or (2) would have looked for work except that (a) they were waiting to return to a job from which they had been laid off, or (b) they were waiting to report to a new wage and salary job scheduled to start within the following 30 days (and were not in school during the week).
4. Unemployment Rate - the number of unemployed expressed as a percent of the civilian labor force.
5. Residence Data - a count of employment by where people live.
6. Establishment Data - a count of employment by where people work.
7. Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Series - to facilitate the evaluation of the labor force, recurrent yearly movements have been isolated and removed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics seasonal factor method.
8. Composite Index - an aggregate of six leading indicators. The indicators used are: Manufacturing - Employment, Average Weekly Hours, total Accessions and Layoffs; Average Weekly Initial Claims; and statewide Building Permits. A reverse trend was used for Layoffs and Average Weekly Initial Claims. This composite index is in no manner or form comparable to the United States composite index as published in "Business Conditions Digest", U. S. Department of Commerce.
9. Real Spendable Average Weekly Earnings of Private Nonagricultural Production Workers - represents the earnings of a hypothetical individual after deductions for State Income, Federal Income and Social Security taxes, and adjustment for change in purchasing power since 1967. This individual is assumed to be sole support for a family of four, earn the average weekly gross earnings of production workers in Montana's private nonagricultural industries, and take standard deductions on State and Federal income taxes. Taxes were computed using standard tax tables, and purchasing power was adjusted by deflating Spendable Earnings based on the national Consumer Price Index.
10. WIN - Work Incentive Program for Aid to Dependent Children recipients.
11. CETA - Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1974.
12. CETA-CEP - Concentrated Employment Program funded under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act.
13. SMSA - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area as determined by Office of Management and Budget. Must have a central city with population of 50,000 or more.
14. LMA - Labor Market Area as determined by the Montana Employment Security Division consists of a central city or cities with population of less than 50,000, and the economically integrated geographical area surrounding it.

MONTANA EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: —)

(SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: ·-·-)

1975 - 1976

(Thousands)

350
340
330
320
310
300
290
280
270
260
250

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

35
30
25
20
15

(%)
10
9
8
7
6
5
4
3
2

1975

1976

1977

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT FIGURES, VS
ACTUAL STATE OF MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

The Bureau of Labor statistics compiles national unemployment on the basis of a monthly Current Population Survey (C.P.S.). Twenty-seven states have large enough samples to enable the Bureau to determine those state's unemployment rate. Twenty-three states, in which Montana is included, must determine their unemployment by means of a statistical formula. Because of the difference in methodology, when C.P.S. states are added to non-C.P.S. states, the unemployment rate differs from that of the "National" rate.

Early in 1976 the Office of Management and Budget mandated that the Bureau of Labor Statistics force the aggregate of all states to equal the national C.P.S. estimates. March 4, 1976, this agency was mandated by the Bureau to adjust the state unemployment rate for 1975 and throughout 1976 downward. All states in B. L. S. Region VIII received the same adjustment factors. Analysis of these adjustment factors indicates that Montana's unemployment rate would arbitrarily be reduced and end results would be misleading and not representative of Montana's actual economic conditions. Therefore, because this agency owes the public in Montana the most reliable and consistent figures available, Montana's Employment Security Research and Analysis Section will continue to publish what is felt are actual unemployment statistics in this publication. This agency will furnish the Bureau with adjusted figures on required reports, but Montana will not publish them.

Because of the above, Bureau of Labor Statistics publications will not agree with statistics as published by Montana's Employment Security Research and Analysis Section.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTANA LABOR MARKET

FEBRUARY 1977



STATE OF MONTANA

In January, Montana local job service offices followed normal mid-winter activity as the claims-load for unemployment benefits increased 52.2% over claims filed in the last month of 1976. This increase in claims was reflected in the State's labor force statistics with the unemployment rate increasing to 9.8% from 7.6% in December.

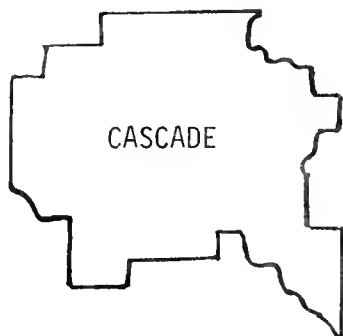
The additional employment could not be traced to any single occupation; virtually all industries were represented in the recent rise in claims. However, male claimants did account for a major share of the increase - claims by males rose 55.8% in January, while female claimants increased 43.3%. On the whole, claims data indicate a labor surplus in nearly all occupational categories, regardless of geographical area.

Montana's economic indicators revealed a slightly different version of local conditions. The manufacturing sector continued to show promise of future economic activity. Average weekly hours in the fourth quarter increased 11.7% from fourth quarter of 1975. New business telephones netted a 36% increase in 1976 and bank debits in the state were 27% above December 1975 totals. In addition, the commercial-industrial power sales index was almost 30% ahead of last year's value. Even building starts, which have displayed recent declines, are well above 1975 levels. Finally, real spendable earnings were at their highest point since February of 1976.

Montana's economic picture appears healthy, but adverse weather conditions and related energy problems might alter that condition. Many areas of the west anticipate drought conditions this summer, curtailing manufacturing and agricultural output. According to the National Weather Service, anything less than normal precipitation in the spring and summer of 1977 will bring stream levels in Montana to record lows. National energy policy-makers have called for a 10% reduction in electricity consumption in the northwest because of reduced hydroelectric capabilities. In some sections of Montana the Federal Power Commission has placed restrictions on new hook-ups for natural gas service.

These conditions can not be ignored, but, put in proper perspective, there is room for some optimism. While Montana has had a dry winter, the possibility exists that spring moisture will help weaken the effects of the drought. Under present economic conditions this means a slow but steady growth period ahead, finally leaving the recession to history.

GREAT FALLS SMSA (Cascade County)



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

In Great Falls, the number of individuals participating in the labor force totaled 33,700 in January, 1,300 above January of 1976. This represents a monthly year-to-year increase of 4%. The number of jobholders declined 600 from the previous month to 30,700. The construction and trade sectors accounted for about two-thirds of the drop in total employment. In January, the number of unemployed reached a seasonal high, with 3,000 out of work, or 8.8% of the labor force.

GREAT FALLS

January Claims Characteristics by Job Service Office

	<u>Percent of All Continued Claims</u>	<u>Percent Change from the Previous Month</u>
Males	74%	59%
Females	26%	61%

Last Industry or Occupation of the Unemployed

<u>Male</u>		<u>Females</u>	
Construction	38%	Eating and Drinking Places	14%
Automotive Dealers, Service Stations	8%	Health Services	12%
Wholesale Trade - Durable Goods	7%	Clerical and Sales Occupations	51%

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

New car registrations for January and February were off 42% from the first two months of 1976. A total of 50 building permits were issued in the city of Great Falls in January, sharing the top spot in the state with Billings. If commercial and residential building projects proposed for 1977 materialize, Great Falls area builders and related businesses will witness an even better year than 1976. One of the larger projects is a proposed \$4 million motel and convention complex. Construction is expected to begin in early spring on a five-acre tract with a scheduled completion date by the following spring. The three-story inn will include 182 rooms, banquet facilities for 500, restaurant, coffee shop, cocktail lounge, swimming pool and parking area. A national chain catalog and retail department store located in Great Falls largest shopping mall is currently undergoing a \$600,000 remodeling and expansion program. The store will be enlarged from 37,000 square feet to 52,000 square feet. Approximately 60 local workers will be employed in the project, which is expected to be completed by June. The telephone company also announced building and service improvement plans for 1977. The company will spend about \$2.1 million to expand facilities to meet the growth of the Great Falls area. Several other major building projects are now being considered by the city-county planning board, including: a mobile home park, a 60-unit rent-subsidized apartment complex, an 80-unit apartment complex, two churches, and several single family housing subdivisions. Also portraying a growth-oriented outlook for the area was the Great Falls city commission which approved a \$9.7 million sewer project. An application for the funds was made to the Environmental Protection Agency. If not approved, a sewer bond issue will be needed.

BILLINGS SMSA (Yellowstone County)



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

In January, there were 51,000 individuals in the civilian labor force in the Billings SMSA. In comparison with January 1976, the labor force showed an annual increase of 7.6% which is considerably above the 1.5% recorded for the state as a whole. The number of employed persons dropped 900 from December to 47,100, while the number of unemployed rose to 3,900. This brought the unadjusted unemployment rate up to 7.6%, compared with 5.6% in December, and 7.9% in January a year ago. Of the major non-farm industrial sectors, only transportation and public utilities, and finance, insurance and real estate remained unchanged from December, with the other sectors showing employment losses from 100 to 300 persons. Unemployment is now at its seasonal peak in the Billings area, as the construction, agriculture, and other outdoor-related industries cut activity to a minimum. Layoffs also occurred in the trade and service industries at this time.

BILLINGS

January Claim Characteristics by Job Service Office

	<u>Percent of All Continued Claims</u>	<u>Percent Change from the Previous Month</u>
Males	79%	57%
Females	21%	46%

Last Industry or Occupation of the Unemployed

	<u>Males</u>		<u>Females</u>
Construction	50%	Services	17%
Heavy and Highway Construction	22%	Wholesale - Retail Trade	28%
Manufacturing	8%		

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

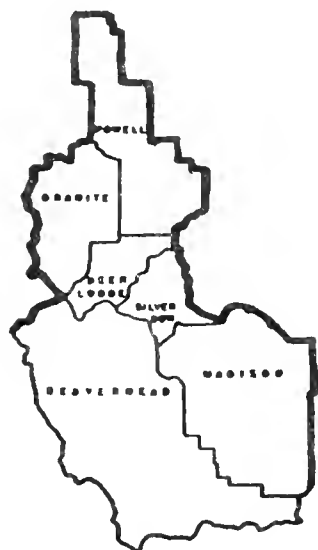
In January, a total of 43 new firms opened for business in the Billings SMSA, which was second only to the four-county Missoula labor market area. A total of 50 building permits were issued in January, 29 less than in January 1976.

The Federal Power Commission has imposed new restrictions that may have a deleterious effect on building construction in the Billings area. The natural gas company serving eastern Montana has been limited to 4,000 new gas service hookups in its service area for 1977. Billings alone had 1,142 meters installed in 1976. However, many area contractors are already switching to alternate forms of home heating systems, particularly electric.

A Billings developer is currently planning a 400-unit mobile home park just outside of the city. Other developments include the opening of a state chartered bank near the area's largest shopping mall, and a new downtown restaurant providing employment for about 10 to 12 people.

The outlook appears bright for the Billings SMSA for the next several months. Continued growth in employment and the labor force is expected, although Billings is now experiencing its highest unemployment period. Beginning in February the unemployment rate should decline steadily until June when unemployment rolls swell with students entering the labor force.

ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

In January, the civilian labor force totaled 35,100 individuals, 700 (or 2%) less than January a year ago. The number of job holders stood at 31,500, down 200 from December, but 100 above January 1976. The ranks of the unemployed swelled from 2,900 in December to 3,600 people, which represents 10.2% of the area's labor pool. The Anaconda job service office reported the following claim characteristics for January: males 69% of all claims, up 43% from December, of which 35% were construction workers. Females, 31% of all claimants, of which 32% were former clerical and sales workers.

Butte: Males made up 67% of all claimants, 15% were metal mining workers and 34% were construction workers. Among females, 19% were last employed in health services, and 14% in hotels and lodging places.

Dillon: Thirty-nine percent of the male claimants stated heavy and highway construction as their last industry of employment. Female claimants combined to make up 32% of all claimants, with 23% coming from eating and drinking places.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

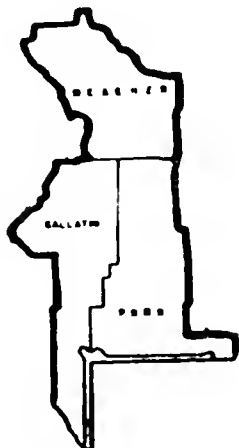
Thirty-nine new businesses were established in January in the Anaconda-Butte labor market area. Of the new firms, 35 or 90% were formed in Silver Bow County. New car registrations for the first two months of 1977 were down 30% from 1976 levels, with all six counties recording declines. In comparison, registrations for the entire state declined 28% over the same period.

In Anaconda, construction is likely to start in about 90 days on the senior citizens center funded under a federal grant. The area smelter laid off 33 workers in the past month, although 7 were recalled in the following week. However, the surplus labor pool is expected to further bulge, with another smelter layoff of about 50 people. The Anaconda employment office also reported a possible layoff of about 12 workers at an area ski resort. Closure is expected due to a lack of snow. The jobless in the area should welcome the announcement by the Montana State Prison in Deer Lodge that 60 new workers are likely to be hired by early March.

Butte area merchants remain skeptical, as one area mining firm has laid off more than 100 workers since the first of the year. A surplus of labor exists in nearly all occupational categories in Silver Bow County.

Due to severe weather conditions in midwestern and eastern markets, a sawmill near Dillon cut operations from a five to a four-day work week, affecting 40 workers. A preliminary application for Community Development Block Grant was approved in Dillon. The \$260,000 would be used for demolition and renovation of sub-standard housing, providing a stimulus to building construction as well as upgrading the area.

BOZEMAN LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The Bozeman labor market area's civilian labor force stood at 23,600 in January. Of these, 21,500 held jobs, 200 below the number employed in the month of December. The unemployment situation worsened as 500 additional workers were added to the jobless rolls. Although primarily attributable to seasonal cutbacks, the total number of unemployed reached 2,100 or an unemployment rate of 9%.

Bozeman: In January, the number of male claimants rose 73% from December. Thirty-eight percent of male claimants reported the construction industry as their last job attachment. Women accounted for 34% of all claimants, of which 24% were last employed in hotels and lodging places.

Livingston: January claims rose by 76% and 26% for males and females respectively. Twenty-eight percent of the male claimants were highway construction workers and 15% were lumber and wood product employees. Among females, 45% were last employed in some facet of the service industry.

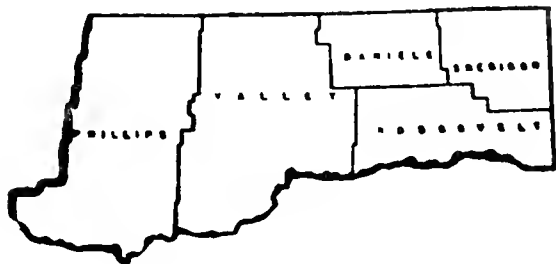
Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

A total of 177 new cars were registered in the Bozeman labor area for the months of January and February. Gallatin County was credited with 158 or 89% of all new registrations in the three-county area. In January, 34 new business firms entered the labor area, compared with 14 in the same month last year.

A mobile home manufacturer near Belgrade put 140 workers on a one week layoff, as the company had to shut down for maintenance and repairs. Bozeman's downtown merchants indicated that business has been slow since the December holiday season, a normal mid-winter pattern. Highway construction has been virtually shut down since the first of December. Because of the mild winter, some building construction has continued intermittently throughout the winter months. The local labor union reported about 40 people were out of work in early February.

In Bozeman, January construction projects totaled 15 with a total value of \$471,450, compared with 16 projects at a value of \$233,400 in the same month a year ago. The mild winter has allowed area farmers and ranchers to use last year's hay for winter feeding operations, while selling this year's crop to short supplied eastern states.

GLASGOW LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

In January, 15,800 individuals were participating in the job market in the Glasgow labor area. In comparison with last year, the labor market has grown by less than one percent, although the composition has changed for the better. At 14,500 the area's total employment is 200 above January 1976. At the same time, the number of unemployed dropped 100 to

1,300 individuals. The January jobless rate did climb to 8.1% from 6.4% in December. For the state, however, only Billings experienced a lower rate in January, recording 7.6% unemployment.

Unemployment insurance claims filed in the Glasgow local job service office increased 37.5% from December to January, while the Wolf Point office saw an increase of 43.7%. Over one-fourth of the female claimants were last employed in education and the health/social services. Male claimants' last occupations were concentrated in the construction industries, oil and gas exploration, and miscellaneous business services.

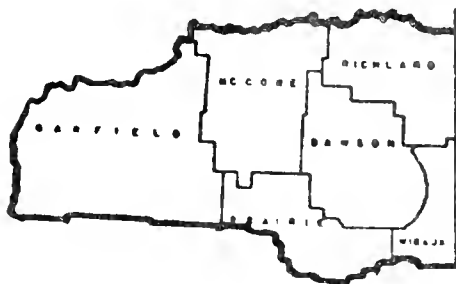
Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

In January and February, a total of 116 new cars were registered in the labor area, down 24% from the same period in 1976. In January, a total of 13 new businesses were formed in the area, compared with 12 in January 1976.

Late in 1976, a decision was made to remodel and reopen a meat packing plant north of Glasgow. Hiring is now underway on a minimal scale, primarily construction laborers. Plant officials had planned on having the plant open by next July, but due to problems in receiving natural gas supply, a decision was made to use coal for the heat, and boilers, with a delayed opening date of October 1977. When completed, the plant will provide employment for 50 to 75 people. Because of the unusually warm weather, many of the building construction projects are continuing, and for the same reason retailers have reported good sales receipts.

The Wolf Point office reports that employment at two tribal industrial enterprises at Poplar remains stable, experiencing light labor turnover and increased production. Labor demands have been light although some entry-level positions are available in cafes, hospitals and nursing homes.

GLENDIVE LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

At 13,300, January's labor force grew 1.5% in the previous 12 months. The number of job holders stood at 12,200, down slightly from December 1976. The unemployment situation deteriorated somewhat since last month, as 300 joined the ranks of the unemployed, bringing total unemployment to 1,100. The unemployment rate hit 8.6% in January, compared with 6.0% and 7.7% in December and January 1976, respectively.

Claims for unemployment benefits were up 35.3% in the Glendive local job service office and 63.9% in Sidney. The largest portion of male claimants were last employed in highway and general building construction. Females filing claims listed their last employment predominantly in the health services and in eating and drinking establishments.

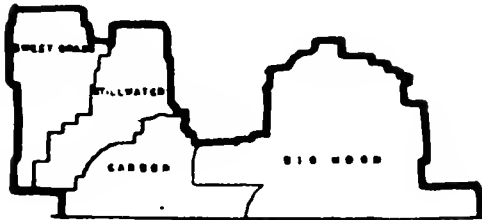
Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

A total of 81 new cars were registered in the first two months of 1977, 46% below 1976 levels. New business formations for January also realized a negative trend showing a 45% decline from the number of new businesses formed in January 1976.

In the Sidney area, the sugar campaign remains the primary economic activity during the seasonally slow winter season. The sugar beets are still being transferred from preliminary processing and storage areas to the sugarbeet factory. In Sidney a new electronic shop opened, and a local electric - carburetor shop completed a remodeling and expansion project. Oil exploration continues in the area, and there has been some call for seismic observer helpers.

In Glendive, highway construction remains at a standstill, although building construction is continuing on a new bank, an addition to another bank, and the building of several apartment houses.

HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA



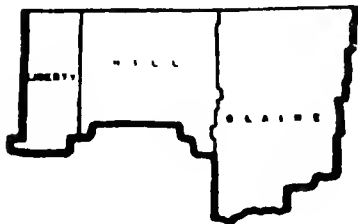
Employment and Unemployment Situation:

In January, the civilian labor force stood at 10,800, up 100 from a year ago. The number of employed persons dropped 100 from December to 9,800, while total unemployment rose 200 from the previous month to 1,100. As a result, the jobless rate jumped from 7.1% to 9.3%.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

A total of five new firms were formed in January, three in Big Horn County and one each in Carbon and Stillwater Counties. Sixty-three new cars were registered in the four-county area in the first two months of 1977. This compares with 76 for the same period a year ago. At this time, labor supply is meeting or exceeding demand in all industrial categories. Likewise, no significant employment developments can be foreseen in the Hardin labor area.

HAVRE LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The civilian labor pool totaled 11,700 individuals in January, less than one percent higher than the same month a year ago. The number of employed stood at 10,700, a decline of 200 from December, and 400 from November 1976. Two hundred additional workers were unemployed in January with the jobless total rising to 1,000. The unemployment rate reached 8.7%, third lowest of all labor areas in Montana.

Claims in the Havre local office were up 48.0% from December. Claims filed by females were up 50.0%, while claims from males were up 47.3%. The largest share of these claims continued to be filed by unemployed construction workers, reflecting the seasonal layoffs in this industry.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

In the three-county Havre labor market area, new business formation in January totaled 8 firms, 7 in Liberty and 1 in Hill County. The 87 new cars registered in January and

February were just less than half the number registered for the same period a year ago.

At present, the Havre labor area is in the middle of its slowest season. The main farming activities have been winter feeding, although the Havre job service office is beginning to receive some orders for calving help.

HELENA LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation:



The civilian labor force grew by .9% from January 1976 to January 1977. Of the 21,800 individuals in the labor pool, about 19,700 held jobs in January. The number of unemployed reached 2,100, over 500 more than in December and 100 above January 1976. The jobless rate hit 9.5%.

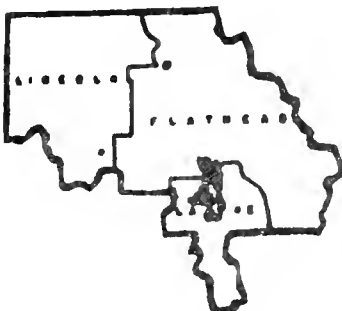
According to January claim characteristics for the Helena job service office, 26% of the male claim filers were construction workers. In comparison with December, the number of male claimants increased 55% and females 24%. Twenty-four percent of the claims filed by women were either from eating and drinking places or the health service industry.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

New business formations in January were 21% less than January last year, with all firms originating in Lewis and Clark County. Fifteen building permits were issued in January in the city of Helena, six of which were residential. In the first two months of 1977, 219 new cars were registered in the three-county area, virtually the same as during the same period a year ago.

The Helena job service office reported that hiring is at its yearly low point. Turnover has been low for even normally high quit rate positions, such as waiter-waitress help. However, area building construction has continued throughout the winter months, because of the abnormally warm weather. Tradesmen have found work plentiful, in comparison with other winter seasons. Regarding agriculture, winter ranges have been open all season with a minimum of livestock feeding. The office has reported openings for waiter-waitresses, cocktail servers, and cooks.

KALISPELL LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

With 31,800 individuals in the labor force in January, the Kalispell labor area showed a negative year-to-year growth rate in the labor pool. However, the number of jobholders actually rose 100 from last January, while the number of unemployed dropped by 1,000. Two things could have happened. Unemployment, which has been especially high in this area since the housing downturn in 1974, could have driven some of the unemployed out of the area to more favorable job markets. The balance simply could have dropped out of the labor pool altogether, due to a

lack of prospective jobs. The result is a labor area with only slightly higher employment and considerably lower unemployment than a year ago. However, the unemployment rate in January was 13.3%, highest of all labor market areas in the state.

Males represented 72% of all claimants, of which 26% were construction workers and 17% were unemployed lumber and wood products workers. Eating and drinking places were the last industry of employment for 31% of all female claimants.

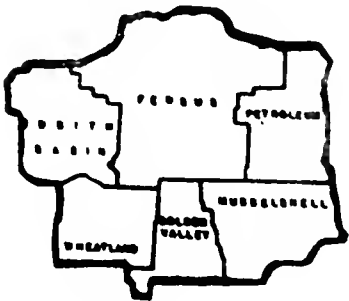
Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

In contrast to the high unemployment statistics in the Kalispell labor area, new car registrations showed an increase in January from a year ago. In fact, this was the only area in the state realizing a year-to-year gain.

The number of unemployed loggers continues to increase in the Kalispell area as an excess log inventory stacks up at the sawmills. Abnormally warm weather has also had an adverse effect on the logging business, causing an early spring breakup and consequently, logging layoffs. Some firms continue to work by hauling logs at night.

An aluminum plant in Columbia Falls laid off 20 employees in late February. The layoff was attributed to a 10% power cutback by a northwest utility firm that supplies power for the aluminum plant. If the drought being experienced in the Washington - Oregon area continues, officials at the aluminum plant are prepared for additional cutbacks.

LEWISTOWN LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

In January, there were 10,800 labor force participants in the Lewistown labor area. The labor force grew nearly 2% from January 1976, which is about one-half of a percent better than the statewide average. Reflecting seasonal trends, the number of jobholders dropped 100 from December to 9,800, and total unemployment increased 200 to 1,000 in January. Consequently, the area's unemployment rate advanced from 7.9% to 9.7%. The claims load jumped 48% from December to January in the Lewistown job service office. The majority of the unemployed claimants

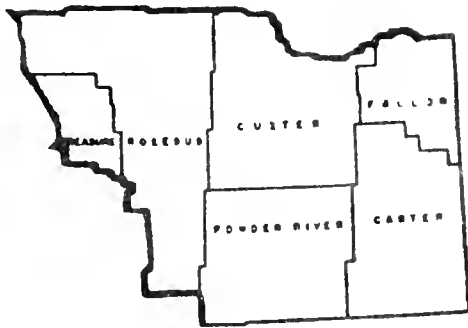
reported highway construction, lumber and wood products, health services, or eating and drinking places as their industry of job attachment.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

A total of seven new firms were formed in January in the labor area, all in Fergus County. Of the 59 new cars registered in the area for the first two months of 1977, 45 originated from Fergus County, 10 in Musselshell, 3 in Judith Basin, and 1 in Wheatland County.

The brickyard near Lewistown shut down last month, but reopened in late February recalling about 10 workers. Several area sawmills, however, remain closed. Lewistown's building inspector reported that the city issued 18 permits for housing starts over the first 11 months of 1976. During the same period, 6 permits were issued for commercial projects valued at \$6,279,680, including a new hospital and nursing home. Looking into 1977, construction has started on a new restaurant, two new churches, and several church additions. Plans are being drawn for a new 130-unit trailer court and a new bank in Lewistown.

MILES CITY LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

At 13,500, January's civilian labor pool grew 2.3% over the same month a year ago. The number of employed persons fell 200 from the last month in 1976 to 12,100. In January, 400 additional people became unemployed bringing the total to 1,400, or 10% of the labor force.

The Miles City job service office reported that January unemployment claims increased 43% for males and 59% for females from December. Over half of all males were last employed in some facet of the construction industry and over one-third were unemployed highway construction people.

Among women, 28% reported eating and drinking establishments as their former industry of employment.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

In January, 11 new business establishments entered the six-county Miles City labor market area. Ninety new cars were registered in the labor area for the months of January and February 1977. This compares with 162 registrations in the same period a year ago.

The Miles City job office reported that currently, labor supply is meeting demand. The highway construction jobs are still shut down, causing a heavy claims load among construction workers.

MISSOULA LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

In January, employment fell 4,000 from the previous month to 34,900. In comparison with year ago levels, the total number of job holders increased by 100. At the same time, unemployment dropped 100, although the jobless rolls increased 900 from December 1976. January's jobless rate rose to 12.4% from 10.2% in December.

Missoula - Claims filed by males rose 53% from December while the number of female claimants advanced 34%.

Hamilton - The number of male claimants took an upward jump of 43%, of which just under 40% were either construction or lumber and wood products industry workers. Females accounted for 27% of all claim filers, with nearly a third coming from either

eating and drinking places or the health service field.

Thompson Falls - Among claimants, just under one-half of the males and 22% of the females reported last working in the lumber and forest products industry. Overall male claims hiked 36% and females 57% from December.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

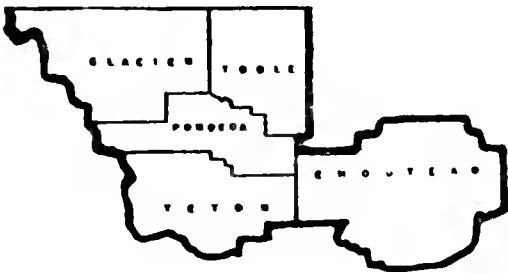
In January 51 new businesses were created in the four-county area, compared with 38 for the same month last year. Cumulative new car registrations totaled 311 for the first two months of 1977.

During January 1977, 29 residential and 10 commercial building permits were issued in Missoula. The total valuation on the building permits was just under \$3 million. The mild weather has allowed a sizeable number of construction and logging workers to return to their jobs. Some of the current construction projects underway include: apartment complexes, a new medical center, a new fast food restaurant and a bar and lounge. Also, it was announced in early February that construction on a new shopping mall in Missoula is to start April 1. The 398,000 square foot mall will house three department stores, a theater, and a restaurant. The \$10 million complex is expected to employ about 600 people when completed in the summer of 1978. A \$350,000 HUD grant has been accepted for improvements on Missoula's northside.

Missoula's ski industry suffered one of its worst seasons in recent years. The facilities are about to close for the season due to a lack of generated revenue. Snow conditions were cited as the primary cause for the closure, although even when snow conditions improved skier attendance was not sufficient for profitable operation.

In the Hamilton area, construction continues on a local creamery's addition. When completed, the firm plans to open a small retail outlet as well as expand plant production capacity. An area mill has reinstated its night shift calling back 15 workers.

SHELBY-CUT BANK LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

In January, the Shelby labor area's labor pool stood at 16,800, or 1.2% ahead of the same month in 1976. The number of jobholders totaled 15,300, compared with 15,600 in the last month of 1976. In January, 500 additional people joined the ranks of the unemployed bringing the total to 1,500, or 9.2% of the labor force.

The Cut Bank job service office reported that January's claims load for men and women jumped 59% and 43%, respectively. Nearly one-third of the males come from the building construction industry, whereas just one-half of the females were former service industry employees. Twenty-seven percent of the males filing claims in the Shelby office were heavy and highway construction workers, while 28% of all females were last employed in eating and drinking places.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

A total of 26 new firms were started in January, compared with 14 for the same month a year ago. In the first two months of 1977, 102 new cars were registered in the five-county area, down 42 from the same period in 1976.

In Browning, a local developer has recalled several workers, bringing their work force to 26 employed on 31 homes in the area. It has been reported that several oil field rigs are still active in the Browning area.

The Shelby job service office has reported several job openings for single and married ranchhands. The office has also been receiving calls for waiter-waitresses, cooks, and clerical help.

Plans were announced to close the oil refinery in Kevin by May 1. The closure will directly affect 41 employees, although a couple of the workers will take early retirement, and several will be transferred to the refinery in Cut Bank. The secondary effects can not be calculated at this time, but Toole County will lose approximately \$103,548 in county taxes. Company officials cited high production costs, non-availability of crude oil and new environmental lead requirements as the major reasons for closing the Kevin plant.

MANPOWER PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

JANUARY 1977

<u>Program</u>	<u>New Enrollees</u>	<u>Job Placements</u>	<u>End of Month Enrollment</u>
WIN	324	80	2,112
CETA-CEP	80	36	238
CETA-INST.	110	11	431
CETA-OJT	38	11	91
JOB CORPS	44	19	266
PSE	165	48	986
CIP (This Program has been terminated)	0	19	0

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - U. S.^{1/} (1967 = 100)

<u>Group</u>	<u>Jan. 1977</u>	<u>Percent Change From: Dec. 1976</u>	<u>Jan. 1976</u>
All Items	175.3	.6%	5.2%

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE UNEMPLOYED^{2/}

JANUARY 1977

<u>Social Characteristics</u>	<u>Percent of Total Covered Unemployment</u>
Non-White	4.7%
Female	24.9%
Youth	7.6%
Over 45	26.5%

^{1/} The Consumer Price Index measures changes in prices of goods and services bought by urban wage earners and clerical workers, including families and single persons.

^{2/} Based on 20% sample of Continued Claims filed during the week including the 19th of each month in all local offices.

Table I
MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

RESIDENCE DATA

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Manage- ment Dispute ^{2/}
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent ^{1/}		
						Montana	U. S.	
1975								
January	308.7	279.8	253.0	26.8	28.9	9.4	9.0	*
February	309.6	278.2	250.8	27.4	31.4	10.2	9.1	.1
March	316.6	287.3	257.1	30.2	29.3	9.2	9.1	.3
April	320.3	292.3	259.4	32.9	28.0	8.7	8.6	.2
May	327.9	304.3	267.3	37.0	23.6	7.2	8.3	.1
June	349.1	319.7	278.9	40.8	29.4	8.4	9.1	.1
July	346.9	321.3	279.1	42.2	25.6	7.4	8.7	.2
August	350.9	327.9	280.7	47.2	23.0	6.6	8.2	*
September	340.2	317.7	279.3	38.4	22.5	6.6	8.1	.3
October	332.6	308.4	274.4	34.0	24.2	7.3	7.8	.3
November	332.4	305.8	274.3	31.5	26.6	8.0	7.8	.2
December	330.7	300.6	271.4	29.2	30.1	9.1	7.8	.2
1975 Avg.	330.5	303.6	268.8	34.8	26.9	8.1	8.5	.1
1976								
January	324.8	291.2	262.4	28.8	33.6	10.3	8.8	*
February	323.6	292.1	263.3	28.8	31.5	9.7	8.7	*
March	328.3	297.3	265.8	31.5	31.0	9.5	8.1	*
April	328.6	302.8	267.8	35.0	25.8	7.9	7.4	*
May	330.4	308.1	271.0	37.1	22.3	6.8	6.7	*
June	343.0	314.1	273.0	41.1	28.9	8.4	8.0	.1
July	341.6	315.3	275.2	40.1	26.3	7.7	7.8	.1
August	341.4	318.0	273.3	44.7	23.4	6.9	7.6	.1
September	330.1	309.9	274.3	35.6	20.2	6.1	7.4	.1
October	329.0	308.0	275.1	32.9	21.0	6.4	7.2	.1
November	328.5	305.2	276.0	29.2	23.3	7.1	7.4	.1
December	326.0	301.3	275.4	25.9	24.7	7.6	7.4	.1
1976 Avg.	331.3	305.3	271.1	34.2	26.0	7.8	7.7	.1
1977								
January	329.5	297.4	272.0	25.4	32.1	9.8	8.8	.1
February	326.7	297.8	270.9	26.9	28.9	8.8	8.5	.1
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

Series began January, 1970.

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment.

Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.

* Under 50.

Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.

RESIDENCE DATA

Table II
GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)
Civilian Labor Force
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Manage- ment Dispute ^{2/}
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent ^{1/}		
						County	State	
1975								
January	31.1	28.5	27.4	1.1	2.6	8.3	9.4	*
February	31.2	28.2	27.1	1.1	3.0	9.7	10.2	*
March	31.8	29.0	27.8	1.2	2.8	8.7	9.2	.1
April	32.5	29.8	28.5	1.3	2.7	8.3	8.7	.1
May	32.7	30.3	28.8	1.5	2.4	7.3	7.2	*
June	33.7	30.9	29.3	1.6	2.8	8.4	8.4	*
July	33.7	31.0	29.3	1.7	2.7	8.1	7.4	*
August	33.7	31.2	29.3	1.9	2.5	7.4	6.6	*
September	33.3	30.9	29.4	1.5	2.4	7.3	6.6	*
October	33.0	30.3	29.0	1.3	2.7	8.1	7.3	*
November	33.0	30.4	29.2	1.2	2.6	7.9	8.0	*
December	33.0	30.2	29.0	1.2	2.8	8.5	9.1	*
1975 Avg.	32.7	30.0	28.6	1.4	2.7	8.2	8.1	*
1976								
January	32.4	29.2	28.1	1.1	3.2	9.8	10.3	*
February	32.2	29.3	28.2	1.1	2.9	9.1	9.7	*
March	32.9	29.9	28.7	1.2	3.0	9.2	9.5	*
April	32.5	29.9	28.5	1.4	2.6	7.9	7.9	*
May	33.5	31.2	29.7	1.5	2.3	6.9	6.8	*
June	35.0	31.7	30.1	1.6	3.3	9.3	8.4	*
July	34.4	31.5	29.9	1.6	2.9	8.3	7.7	*
August	34.2	31.7	29.9	1.8	2.5	7.2	6.9	*
September	33.5	31.5	30.1	1.4	2.0	6.1	6.1	*
October	33.8	31.6	30.3	1.3	2.2	6.6	6.4	*
November	33.7	31.4	30.2	1.2	2.3	6.8	7.1	*
December	33.5	31.3	30.3	1.0	2.2	6.5	7.6	*
1976 Avg.	33.5	30.9	29.5	1.4	2.6	7.8	7.8	*
1977								
January	33.7	30.7	29.7	1.0	3.0	8.8	7.9	*
February	33.3	30.6	29.5	1.1	2.7	8.2	8.8	*
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

^{1/} Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

Series began January 1976.

^{2/} Non-additive - included in total employment.

Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.

* Under 50.

Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.

Table III
BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)
Civilian Labor Force
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

RESIDENCE DATA

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Manage- ment Dispute ^{2/}
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent ^{1/}		
						County	State	
1975								
January	45.4	42.0	40.8	1.2	3.4	7.6	9.4	*
February	45.1	41.5	40.2	1.3	3.6	8.0	10.2	*
March	45.6	42.0	40.6	1.4	3.6	7.9	9.2	.1
April	46.8	43.4	41.9	1.5	3.4	7.3	8.7	*
May	47.1	44.5	42.8	1.7	2.6	5.6	7.2	*
June	49.0	45.6	43.7	1.9	3.4	7.0	8.4	*
July	49.5	46.3	44.4	1.9	3.2	6.5	7.4	*
August	49.2	46.1	43.9	2.2	3.1	6.2	6.6	*
September	48.5	45.6	43.8	1.8	2.9	5.9	6.6	.2
October	48.4	45.6	44.0	1.6	2.8	5.8	7.3	.2
November	49.2	46.4	45.0	1.4	2.8	5.8	8.0	*
December	48.6	45.4	44.1	1.3	3.2	6.5	9.1	*
1975 Avg.	47.7	44.5	42.9	1.6	3.2	6.7	8.1	*
1976								
January	47.4	43.7	42.4	1.3	3.7	7.9	10.3	*
February	47.1	43.8	42.5	1.3	3.3	7.1	9.7	*
March	47.5	44.1	42.7	1.4	3.4	7.2	9.5	*
April	48.3	45.4	43.8	1.6	2.9	5.9	7.9	*
May	48.1	45.8	44.1	1.7	2.3	4.8	6.8	*
June	50.7	47.2	45.3	1.9	3.5	6.9	8.4	*
July	50.4	47.2	45.4	1.8	3.2	6.3	7.7	*
August	49.8	47.1	45.0	2.1	2.7	5.5	6.9	*
September	50.0	47.6	46.0	1.6	2.4	4.7	6.1	*
October	50.7	48.3	46.8	1.5	2.4	4.6	6.4	*
November	51.0	48.5	47.2	1.3	2.5	4.9	7.1	*
December	50.8	48.0	46.8	1.2	2.8	5.6	7.6	*
1976 Avg.	49.3	46.4	44.8	1.6	2.9	5.9	7.8	*
1977								
January	51.0	47.1	45.9	1.2	3.9	7.6	9.8	*
February	51.2	47.1	45.9	1.2	4.1	8.0	8.8	*
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

Series began January 1970.

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment.

Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.

* Under 50.

Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.

MONTANA

Statewide Employment by Industry

JANUARY 1977

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Jan. 1977	Dec. 1976	Jan. 1976	Net Changes to Current Month from:	
				Dec. 1976	Jan. 1976
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS ^{1/}	329.5	326.0	324.8	3.5	4.7
EMPLOYED PERSONS	297.4	301.3	291.2	-3.9	6.2
Persons Employed in Agriculture	25.4	25.9	28.8	-.5	-3.4
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	32.1	24.7	33.6	7.4	-1.5
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted ^{2/}	9.8	7.6	10.3	2.2	-.5
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted ^{2/}	7.6	7.1	8.1	.5	-.5
<hr/>					
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	244.4	246.9	235.3	-2.5	9.1
MANUFACTURING	23.0	23.1	21.9	-.1	1.1
Durable Goods	14.5	14.5	13.7	0	.8
24 Lumber and Wood Products	8.5	8.6	8.2	-.1	.3
33 Primary Metal Industries	3.3	3.3	3.0	0	.3
Other Durable Goods	2.7	2.6	2.5	.1	.2
Nondurable Goods	8.5	8.6	8.2	-.1	.3
20 Food and Kindred Products	4.2	4.3	3.9	-.1	.3
27 Printing and Publishing	1.9	1.9	1.9	0	0
29 Petroleum and Coal Products	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.3	1.3	1.3	0	0
MINING	5.8	5.8	6.1	0	-.3
10 Metal Mining	2.3	2.3	2.5	0	-.2
13 & 14 Bitum. Coal, Quarrying, Non-Metal Mining	1.6	1.6	1.7	0	-.1
13 Oil and Gas Extraction	1.9	1.9	1.9	0	0

<u>CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION</u>									
15 General Building Contractors	9.7	10.9	10.0	-1.2	-1.2				
16 Heavy Construction Contractors	3.4	4.1	3.8	-1.7	-1.7				
17 Special Trade Contractors	1.6	2.1	1.7	-1.5	-1.5				
	4.7	4.7	4.5	0	0				
<u>TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES</u>									
40 Railroad Transportation	19.5	19.5	18.8	0	0				
41-47 Transportation, except Railroad	6.3	6.3	5.9	0	0				
48 & 49 Comm., Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services ..	5.7	5.7	5.6	0	0				
	7.5	7.5	7.3	0	0				
<u>WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE</u>									
Wholesale Trade	60.6	61.4	57.8	-1.8	-1.8				
Retail Trade	12.5	12.5	11.7	0	0				
53 & 56 General Merchandise, Apparel, Accessories .	48.1	48.9	46.1	-1.8	-1.8				
54 Food Stores	8.3	9.0	8.1	-1.7	-1.7				
55 Automotive Dealers, Service Stations	6.7	6.8	6.4	-1.1	-1.1				
58 Eating and Drinking Places	7.9	7.9	7.9	0	0				
52, 57, 59 Bldg. Mat., Farm Equip., Furn., Misc. .	15.2	15.2	14.0	0	0				
	10.0	10.0	9.7	0	0				
<u>FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE</u>									
	10.9	10.8	10.3	1	1				
<u>SERVICES</u>									
70 Hotels and other Lodging Places	47.4	47.4	44.7	0	0				
72 Personal Services	6.2	6.2	4.9	0	0				
80 Medical and other Health Services	2.6	2.6	2.4	0	0				
Other Services	15.4	15.4	14.5	0	0				
	23.2	23.2	22.9	0	0				
<u>GOVERNMENT</u>									
91 Federal Government	67.5	68.0	65.7	-1.5	-1.5				
92 State Colleges and Universities	13.2	13.2	13.3	0	0				
92 Other State Government	9.2	9.2	9.1	0	0				
93 Local Education	10.6	10.7	10.1	-1	-1				
93 Other Local Government	22.3	22.3	21.0	0	0				
	12.2	12.6	12.2	-1.4	-1.4				

- 1/ Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.
 2/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.
 Establishment Series began January 1964; Residence Series began January 1970.
 Current month preliminary.
 Revised to 1975 benchmarks.

RESIDENCE DATA

(ESTABLISHMENT DATA in italics)

Table V

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

JANUARY 1977

in Thousands

INDUSTRY

Net Changes to
Current Month
from:

	Jan. 1977	Dec. 1976	Jan. 1976	Dec. 1976	Jan. 1976
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS ^{1/}	33.7	33.5	32.4	.2	1.3
EMPLOYED PERSONS	30.7	31.3	29.2	-.6	1.5
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.0	1.0	1.1	0	-.1
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	3.0	2.2	3.2	.8	-.2
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted ^{2/}	8.8	6.5	9.8	2.3	-1.0
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted ^{3/} ..	7.2	6.8	8.0	.4	-.8
<hr/>					
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	28.4	28.9	26.9	-.5	1.5
MANUFACTURING	1.7	1.7	1.7	0	0
Contract Construction	1.5	1.7	1.2	-.2	.3
Transportation and Public Utilities ...	1.9	1.9	1.8	0	.1
Wholesale and Retail Trade	8.7	8.9	8.2	-.2	.5
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	2.0	2.0	1.9	0	.1
Services and Mining	6.7	6.8	6.2	-.1	.5
Government	5.9	5.9	5.9	0	0

^{1/} Excludes Armed Forces of the United States; excludes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.

^{2/} Excludes part-whole (converted) numbers.

^{3/} First month preliminary.

Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.

Table VI
BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

JANUARY 1977

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Net Changes to Current Month from:				
	Jan. 1977	Dec. 1976	Jan 1976	Dec. 1976	Jan. 1976
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS ^{1/}	51.0	50.8	47.4	.2	3.6
EMPLOYED PERSONS	47.1	48.0	43.7	-.9	3.4
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.2	1.2	1.3	0	-.1
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	3.9	2.8	3.7	1.1	.2
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted ^{2/}	7.6	5.6	7.9	2.0	-.3
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted ^{2/} ..	6.3	5.7	6.6	.6	-.3
<hr/>					
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	41.3	42.0	38.5	-.7	2.8
MANUFACTURING	3.8	3.9	3.5	-.1	.3
Contract Construction	2.1	2.2	1.8	-.1	.3
Transportation and Public Utilities ...	3.3	3.3	3.3	0	0
Wholesale and Retail Trade	13.6	13.7	12.6	-.1	1.0
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	2.1	2.1	2.0	0	.1
Services and Mining	8.2	8.3	8.1	-.1	.1
Government	8.2	8.5	7.2	-.3	1.0

^{1/}Estimate based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships;
includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.

^{2/}Excludes piece-whole (compounded) members.

January month preliminary.

Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.

Table VII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS^{1/}

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Nov. 1976	Dec. 1976	Jan. 1977	Nov. 1976	Dec. 1976	Jan. 1977	Nov. 1976	Dec. 1976	Jan. 1977	Nov. 1976	Dec. 1976	Jan. 1977
STATEWIDE	328.5	326.0	329.5	305.2	301.3	297.4	23.3	24.7	32.1	7.1	7.6	9.8
GREAT FALLS SMSA	33.7	33.5	33.7	31.4	31.3	30.7	2.3	2.2	3.0	6.8	6.5	8.8
BILLINGS SMSA	51.0	50.8	51.0	48.5	48.0	47.1	2.5	2.8	3.9	4.9	5.6	7.6
^{2/} BALANCE OF STATE ^{2/}	243.8	241.7	244.8	225.3	222.0	219.6	18.5	19.7	25.2	7.6	8.1	10.3
ANACONDA-BUTTE	35.0	34.6	35.1	32.1	31.7	31.5	2.9	2.9	3.6	8.2	8.3	10.2
BOZEMAN	23.7	23.3	23.6	22.1	21.7	21.5	1.6	1.6	2.1	6.8	6.9	9.0
GLASGOW	15.9	15.7	15.8	15.0	14.7	14.5	.9	1.0	1.3	5.9	6.4	8.1
GLENDIVE	13.1	13.1	13.3	12.5	12.3	12.2	.6	.8	1.1	4.6	6.0	8.6
HARDIN-RED LODGE	10.7	10.7	10.8	10.1	9.9	9.8	.6	.8	1.0	6.1	7.1	9.3
HAVRE	11.8	11.7	11.7	11.1	10.9	10.7	.7	.8	1.0	5.7	6.7	8.7
HELENA	21.6	21.4	21.8	20.0	19.8	19.7	1.6	1.6	2.1	7.2	7.5	9.5
KALISPELL	31.4	31.3	31.8	28.1	27.9	27.6	3.3	3.4	4.2	10.4	10.8	13.3
LEWISTOWN	10.8	10.7	10.8	10.1	9.9	9.8	.7	.8	1.0	6.4	7.9	9.7
MILES CITY	13.2	13.3	13.5	12.5	12.3	12.1	.7	1.0	1.4	5.5	7.5	10.0
MISSOULA	39.7	39.3	39.8	35.8	35.3	34.9	3.9	4.0	4.9	9.9	10.2	12.4
SHELBY-CUT BANK	16.9	16.6	16.8	15.9	15.6	15.3	1.0	1.0	1.5	5.6	6.4	9.2

^{1/} A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on page 29. See map on inside back cover.^{2/} Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

TABLE VIII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS^{1/}

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Percent Change			Percent Change			Net Change			Net Change		
	Jan. 1977	Jan. 1976	1976-1977	Jan. 1977	Jan. 1976	1976-1977	Jan. 1977	Jan. 1976	1976-1977	Jan. 1977	Jan. 1976	1976-1977
STATEWIDE	329.5	324.8	1.4	297.4	291.2	2.1	32.1	33.6	-1.5	9.8	10.3	-.5
GREAT FALLS SMSA	33.7	32.4	4.0	30.7	29.2	5.1	3.0	3.2	-.2	8.8	9.8	-1.0
BILLINGS SMSA	51.0	47.4	7.6	47.1	43.7	7.8	3.9	3.7	.2	7.6	7.9	-.3
BALANCE OF STATE ^{2/}	244.8	245.0	-.1	219.6	218.3	.6	25.2	26.7	-1.5	10.3	10.9	-.6
ANACONDA-BUTTE	35.1	35.8	-2.0	31.5	31.4	.3	3.6	4.4	-.8	10.2	12.2	-2.0
BOZEMAN	23.6	23.7	-.4	21.5	21.4	.5	2.1	2.3	-.2	9.0	9.9	-.9
GLASGOW	15.8	15.7	.6	14.5	14.3	1.4	1.3	1.4	-.1	8.1	8.6	-.5
GLENDIVE	13.3	13.1	1.5	12.2	12.1	.8	1.1	1.0	.1	8.6	7.7	.9
HARDIN-RED LODGE	10.8	10.7	.9	9.8	9.8	0	1.0	.9	.1	9.3	8.6	.7
HAVRE	11.7	11.6	.9	10.7	10.6	.9	1.0	1.0	0	8.7	8.2	.5
HELENA	21.8	21.6	.9	19.7	19.6	.5	2.1	2.0	-.1	9.5	9.3	.2
KALISPELL	31.8	32.6	-2.5	27.6	27.4	.7	4.2	5.2	-1.0	13.3	15.9	-2.6
LEWISTOWN	10.8	10.6	1.9	9.8	9.7	1.0	1.0	.9	.1	9.7	8.6	1.1
MILES CITY	13.5	13.2	2.3	12.1	12.0	.8	1.4	1.2	.2	10.0	8.8	1.2
MISSOULA	39.8	39.8	0	34.9	34.8	.3	4.9	5.0	-.1	12.4	12.6	-.2
SHELBY-CUT BANK	16.8	16.6	1.2	15.3	15.2	.7	1.5	1.4	.1	9.2	8.5	.7

^{1/} A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on page 29. See map on inside back cover.^{2/} Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

Table IX

MONTANA

FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

JANUARY 1977

(In Thousands)

INDUSTRY	FEMALE EMPLOYMENT				TOTAL EMPLOYMENT COMPARISON					
	Jan. 1/ 1977	Dec. 1976	Jan. 1976	Net Change to Current Month From:	Total	Percent Women	Total	Percent Women		
									Dec. 1976	Jan. 1976
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers	101.8	102.6	95.1	-0.8	6.7		244.4	41.6	235.3	40.4
Manufacturing	3.0	3.0	2.7	0	0.3		23.0	13.0	21.9	11.9
Mining	0.3	0.3	0.3	0	0		5.8	5.2	6.1	4.9
Contract Construction	0.7	0.7	0.8	0	-1		9.7	7.2	10.0	8.0
Transportation & Public Utilities	3.5	3.5	3.5	0	0		19.5	17.9	18.8	18.6
Wholesale & Retail Trade	26.0	26.6	23.4	-6	2.6		60.6	42.9	57.8	40.5
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	6.8	6.8	6.4	0	.4		10.9	62.4	10.3	62.1
Services	29.9	29.9	28.1	0	1.8		47.4	63.1	44.7	62.9
Government ^{2/}	31.6	31.8	29.9	-2	1.7		67.5	46.8	65.7	45.5

1/ Current month preliminary.

Revised to 1975 Benchmark.

2/ Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Government regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged.

Prepared by the Montana Employment Security Division in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Establishment Series began January 1974.

MONTANA FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

(In Thousands)

1975

	<u>Jan.</u>	<u>Feb.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Apr.</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>Aug.</u>	<u>Sep.</u>	<u>Oct.</u>	<u>Nov.</u>	<u>Dec.</u>	<u>Ann. Avg.</u>
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary	88.6	88.9	91.2	92.5	95.0	97.6	95.4	95.3	97.3	96.9	98.2	98.4	94.6
Manufacturing	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.5
Nonmanufacturing	86.3	86.6	88.9	90.2	92.6	95.0	92.7	92.7	94.7	94.1	95.5	95.8	92.1
Mining	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3
Contract Construction	.8	.7	.7	.8	.8	.9	.9	.9	.9	.9	.9	.9	.8
Transport. & Public Utilities	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.5
Wholesale & Retail Trade	22.6	21.9	22.8	24.1	25.1	25.8	26.3	27.0	27.1	25.2	25.5	26.0	24.9
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	5.9	5.9	6.0	6.0	6.1	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.4	6.3	6.2	6.4	6.2
Services	26.4	26.2	27.1	27.2	28.3	29.4	29.4	29.7	28.9	28.1	28.0	28.3	28.1
Government ^{1/}	27.0	28.2	28.6	28.5	28.6	28.9	25.9	24.9	27.5	29.7	31.0	30.4	28.3

1976

Nonagricultural Wage & Salary	95.5	95.4	96.5	97.6	98.7	98.9	99.0	98.4	99.5	101.2	102.2	102.6	98.8
Manufacturing	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.7	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.2	3.1	3.0	2.9
Mining	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3
Contract Construction	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8	.7	.8
Transport. & Public Utilities	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5
Wholesale & Retail Trade	23.3	23.0	23.8	24.7	25.2	25.5	26.1	25.9	26.1	26.0	26.3	26.6	25.2
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	6.4	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.7	6.8	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.8	6.6
Services	28.3	28.3	28.5	28.6	28.8	28.9	29.4	29.5	29.8	29.7	29.9	29.9	29.1
Government ^{1/}	30.3	30.5	30.6	30.6	30.8	30.3	29.1	28.5	29.2	31.0	31.6	31.8	30.4

^{1/} Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged.
 Revised to 1975 Benchmark.
 Prepared by Montana Employment Security Division in cooperation with U. S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table XI

SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS OF APPLICANTS IN THE ACTIVE FILES IN EMPLOYMENT SERVICE OFFICES

December 1976

<u>D.O.T. Code</u>	<u>Occupational Title</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Veteran</u>	<u>Minority</u>	<u>Economi- cally Disad- vantaged</u>
0-1	Professional, Tech. & Managerial	2,842	1,019	1,048	184	344
20-24	Clerical	3,547	3,037	306	237	666
25-29	Sales	1,837	1,121	335	67	333
30	Domestic	766	454	52	117	345
31-39	Other Services	5,010	3,462	644	439	1,618
4	Farming, Fishery & Forestry	2,133	299	646	285	887
5	Processing	295	65	88	16	53
6	Machine Trades	1,660	73	826	89	224
7	Bench Work	280	103	82	70	80
8	Structural Work	7,017	93	3,194	652	958
90-91	Motor Freight & Transportation	2,153	96	1,062	111	289
92	Packaging & Material Handling	2,039	112	709	238	508
93-97	Miscellaneous	879	37	381	69	140
	Entry-Level Applicants	1,513	788	234	209	549
	Total	32,063	10,789	9,632	2,790	7,011

NONAGRICULTURAL JOB OPENINGS BY OCCUPATION

December 1976

<u>D.O.T. Code</u>	<u>Occupational Title</u>	<u>Total Received</u>	<u>Openings Filled</u>	<u>Unfilled Total</u>	<u>Open 30 Days +</u>
0-1	Professional, Tech. & Managerial	531	333	216	141
20-24	Clerical	1,581	1,233	309	135
25-29	Sales	678	447	173	111
30	Domestic	543	521	47	30
31-39	Other Services	1,990	1,597	430	229
4	Farming, Fishery & Forestry	105	120	18	15
5	Processing	90	83	23	18
6	Machine Trades	226	176	58	40
7	Bench Work	121	96	38	18
8	Structural Work	1,402	1,397	155	113
90-91	Motor Freight & Transportation	803	720	69	35
92	Packaging & Material Handling	1,813	1,798	86	49
93-97	Miscellaneous	295	253	37	12
	Total	10,199	8,794	1,672	957

Source: EGBRS The above data are total Fiscal Year-to-Date.

Table XII

SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS OF INDIVIDUALS PLACED THROUGH THE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

December 1976

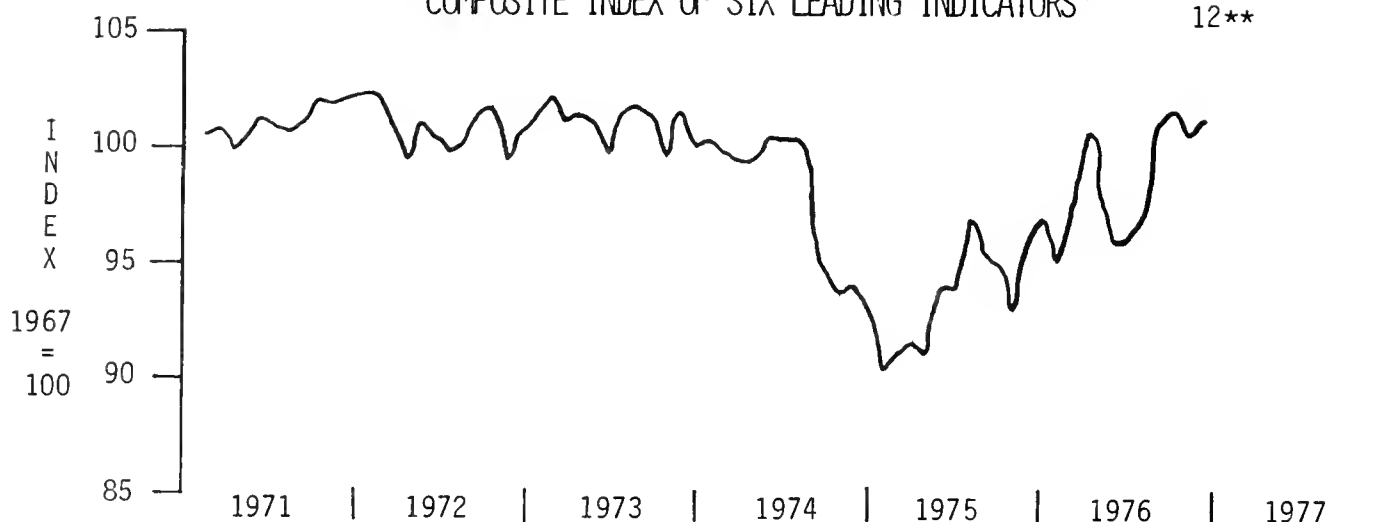
<u>Category</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Non-Ag</u>	<u>Agricultural</u>
<u>Age</u>			
Total	7,125	6,631	666
Under 20	1,551	1,456	124
20-21	1,065	998	95
22-24	1,246	1,164	106
25-29	1,213	1,146	94
30-39	1,066	1,011	89
40-44	293	271	32
45-54	452	392	77
55-64	199	162	39
65 and Over	40	31	10
<u>Sex</u>			
Male	4,436	4,010	588
Female	2,689	2,621	78
<u>Highest School Grade</u>			
0-7	158	123	41
8-11	2,115	1,906	280
12	3,175	3,005	241
Over 12	1,677	1,597	104
<u>Residence</u>			
Urban	4,601	4,364	350
Rural	2,524	2,267	316
<u>Ethnic Group</u>			
White	6,502	6,085	568
Black	36	34	2
American Indian	423	366	75
Other	142	124	21
N/A	22	22	0
Spanish American	146	129	22
<u>Veteran</u>			
Total	1,717	1,552	236
Recently Separated	444	417	40
Disabled	113	99	18
Vietnam Era	1,099	1,022	116
<u>Other Selected Characteristics</u>			
Handicapped	546	501	65
Economically Disadvantaged	1,554	1,419	170
Food Stamps	500	458	55
Welfare	273	265	9

Source: ESARS The above data are total Fiscal Year-to-Date.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

COMPOSITE INDEX OF SIX LEADING INDICATORS*

12**



Composite Index of SIX LEADING INDICATORS 1967 = 100

1976

January	96.8
February	95.0
March	97.4
April	100.5
May	97.7
June	95.7
July	95.9
August	96.9
September	100.9
October	101.5
November	100.4
December	101.1

1977

January	
February	
March	
April	
May	
June	
July	
August	
September	
October	
November	
December	

MONTANA'S COMPOSITE INDEX

December's index value climbed to 101.0 from 100.4 in November; however, some components in the index reflected negative trends. Accessions continued to drop since third quarter of 1976, and Building Permits dropped to 505, the third consecutive monthly decrease. The remaining indicators are closely tied to manufacturing where activity is brisk. Employment in manufacturing stood at 23,400, an increase of 300 persons from November. Average Weekly Hours are 42.1 and Layoffs decreased to 1.2 persons per 100 workers from 1.5 persons in November.

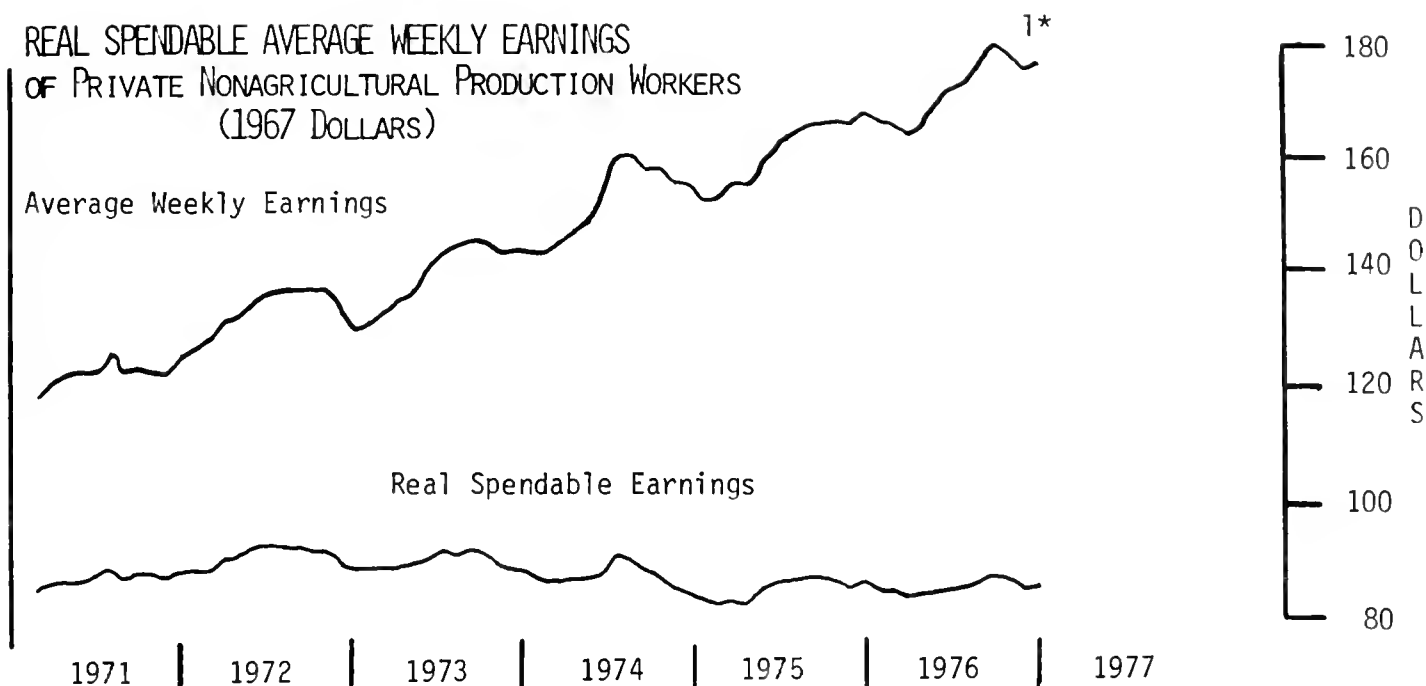
* Employment, Average Weekly Hours, Total Accessions, and Layoffs in Manufacturing; Building Permits, and Average Weekly Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims.

** Indicates last month of plotted data.

REAL SPENDABLE AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS
OF PRIVATE NONAGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION WORKERS
(1967 DOLLARS)

Average Weekly Earnings

Real Spendable Earnings



	Jan 1977	Dec 1976	Jan 1976
Gross Average Weekly Earnings	\$175.51	\$175.78	\$ 165.89
Taxes Withheld	26.50	26.58	23.62
Spendable Earnings	149.02	149.21	142.27
Adjustment for Price Changes Since 1967	64.02	63.59	56.92
Real Spendable Earnings in 1967 Dollars	85.00	85.62	85.35

	Average Weekly Earnings ^{1/}	Real Spendable Earnings ^{2/}	SPENDABLE EARNINGS
1976			
July	172.67	85.92	
Aug.	175.69	86.77	
Sep.	178.92	87.72	
Oct.	177.79	86.90	
Nov.	175.02	85.54	
Dec.	175.78	85.62	
1977			
Jan.	175.51 ^p	85.00 ^p	
Feb.			
Mar.			
Apr.			
May			
June			
July			
Aug.			
Sep.			
Oct.			
Nov.			
Dec.			

Real Spendable Earnings ended 1976 at \$85.62, a .6% increase from November. While this increase is small, it is more encouraging than the seasonal decrease that is normally anticipated. Preliminary data also suggest the possibility of a real wage increase for January.

* Indicates last month of plotted data.

^p: Preliminary.

^{1/} Average weekly earnings of total private nonagricultural production workers.

^{2/} Real spendable average weekly earnings of private nonagricultural production workers.

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Manage- ment Dispute ^{2/}
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent ^{1/}		
						Montana	U. S.	
1975								
January	326.0	303.0	265.8	37.2	23.0	7.0	8.2	*
February	326.4	300.0	263.3	36.7	26.4	8.1	8.2	.1
March	326.0	300.0	265.2	34.8	26.0	8.0	8.7	.3
April	323.2	295.6	262.7	32.9	27.6	8.5	8.9	.2
May	325.6	299.0	265.1	33.9	26.6	8.2	9.2	.1
June	327.4	299.7	267.7	32.0	27.7	8.4	8.6	.1
July	327.8	301.3	268.9	32.4	26.5	8.1	8.4	.2
August	329.3	302.9	270.2	32.7	26.4	8.0	8.4	*
September	333.1	306.3	273.7	32.6	26.8	8.1	8.3	.3
October	336.4	308.4	273.1	35.3	28.0	8.3	8.6	.3
November	341.0	313.0	275.4	37.6	28.0	8.2	8.3	.2
December	343.5	314.0	274.6	39.4	29.5	8.6	8.3	.2
1975 Avg.	330.5	303.6	268.8	34.8	26.9	8.1	8.5	.1
1976								
January	342.7	315.0	274.6	40.4	27.7	8.1	7.8	*
February	341.1	314.6	275.6	39.0	26.5	7.8	7.6	*
March	337.8	309.9	273.8	36.1	27.9	8.3	7.5	*
April	332.6	307.2	272.2	35.0	25.4	7.6	7.5	*
May	328.2	302.9	269.4	33.5	25.3	7.7	7.3	*
June	320.7	293.6	261.9	31.7	27.1	8.4	7.5	.1
July	321.6	294.4	264.5	29.9	27.2	8.5	7.8	.1
August	319.1	292.2	262.3	29.9	26.9	8.4	7.9	.1
September	322.4	297.7	267.5	30.2	24.7	7.7	7.8	.1
October	332.8	307.9	273.6	34.3	24.9	7.5	7.9	.1
November	338.4	313.9	278.7	35.2	24.5	7.3	8.0	.1
December	337.9	314.0	278.2	35.8	23.9	7.1	7.8	.1
1976 Avg.	331.3	305.3	271.1	34.2	26.0	7.8	7.7	.1
1977								
January	347.5	321.2	284.2	37.0	26.3	7.6	7.3	.1
February								
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

^{1/} Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.^{2/} Non-additive - included in total employment.

* Under 50.

Series began January 1970.

Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.

Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

RESIDENCE DATA

Table XIV
GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)
Civilian Labor Force
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Manage- ment Dispute ^{2/}
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent ^{1/}		
						County	State	
1975								
January	32.4	30.3	28.7	1.6	2.1	6.5	7.0	*
February	32.7	30.0	28.5	1.5	2.7	8.3	8.1	*
March	32.5	29.9	28.5	1.4	2.6	8.1	8.0	.1
April	32.6	29.8	28.5	1.3	2.8	8.7	8.5	.1
May	32.4	29.9	28.6	1.3	2.5	7.8	8.2	*
June	32.2	29.7	28.5	1.2	2.5	7.8	8.4	*
July	32.4	29.8	28.5	1.3	2.6	8.2	8.1	*
August	32.5	29.8	28.5	1.3	2.7	8.2	8.0	*
September	32.7	30.0	28.8	1.2	2.7	8.2	8.1	*
October	33.0	30.0	28.7	1.3	3.0	9.0	8.3	*
November	33.6	30.8	29.3	1.5	2.8	8.3	8.2	*
December	33.4	30.5	29.0	1.5	2.9	8.8	8.6	*
1975 Avg.	32.7	30.0	28.6	1.4	2.7	8.2	8.1	*
1976								
January	33.7	31.0	29.3	1.7	2.7	8.0	8.1	*
February	33.6	31.0	29.4	1.6	2.6	7.7	7.8	*
March	33.7	30.8	29.4	1.4	2.9	8.6	8.3	*
April	32.5	29.8	28.4	1.4	2.7	8.3	7.6	*
May	33.1	30.7	29.4	1.3	2.4	7.3	7.7	*
June	33.3	30.4	29.2	1.2	2.9	8.8	8.4	*
July	33.1	30.3	29.1	1.2	2.8	8.4	8.5	*
August	33.0	30.4	29.2	1.2	2.6	8.0	8.4	*
September	32.9	30.6	29.4	1.2	2.3	6.9	7.7	*
October	34.0	31.5	30.2	1.3	2.5	7.4	7.5	*
November	34.2	31.7	30.3	1.4	2.5	7.3	7.3	*
December	34.1	31.8	30.4	1.4	2.3	6.8	7.1	*
1976 Avg.	33.5	30.9	29.5	1.4	2.6	7.8	7.8	*
1977								
January	35.2	32.7	31.2	1.5	2.5	7.2	7.6	*
February								
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

^{1/} Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.^{2/} Non-additive - included in total employment.

* Under 50.

Series began January 1970.

Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.

Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

Table XV
BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

RESIDENCE DATA

Civilian Labor Force

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Manage- ment Dispute ^{2/}
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent ^{1/}		
						County	State	
1975								
January	46.9	44.0	42.3	1.7	2.9	6.2	7.0	*
February	46.6	43.3	41.6	1.7	3.3	7.0	8.1	*
March	46.5	43.3	41.7	1.6	3.2	7.0	8.0	.1
April	47.3	43.7	42.2	1.5	3.6	7.6	8.5	*
May	47.3	44.3	42.8	1.5	3.0	6.3	8.2	*
June	47.3	44.2	42.7	1.5	3.1	6.5	8.4	*
July	47.8	44.7	43.3	1.4	3.1	6.5	8.1	*
August	48.2	45.0	43.4	1.6	3.2	6.5	8.0	*
September	48.6	45.4	43.9	1.5	3.2	6.6	8.1	.2
October	48.0	44.8	43.2	1.6	3.2	6.7	8.3	.2
November	49.0	45.9	44.2	1.7	3.1	6.3	8.2	*
December	49.0	45.8	44.0	1.8	3.2	6.6	8.6	*
1975 Avg.	47.7	44.5	42.9	1.6	3.2	6.7	8.1	*
1976								
January	49.0	45.8	44.0	1.8	3.2	6.6	8.1	*
February	48.8	45.9	44.2	1.7	2.9	6.0	7.8	*
March	48.7	45.6	44.0	1.6	3.1	6.4	8.3	*
April	48.7	45.7	44.1	1.6	3.0	6.2	7.6	*
May	47.9	45.3	43.8	1.5	2.6	5.5	7.7	*
June	48.9	45.7	44.2	1.5	3.2	6.5	8.4	*
July	48.7	45.7	44.4	1.3	3.0	6.2	8.5	*
August	48.7	45.8	44.3	1.5	2.9	5.9	8.4	*
September	49.9	47.2	45.8	1.4	2.7	5.4	7.7	*
October	50.4	47.7	46.1	1.6	2.7	5.5	7.5	*
November	50.9	48.1	46.5	1.6	2.8	5.4	7.3	*
December	51.0	48.1	46.4	1.7	2.9	5.7	7.1	*
1976 Avg.	49.3	46.4	44.8	1.6	2.9	5.9	7.8	*
1977								
January	52.5	49.2	47.6	1.6	3.3	6.3	7.6	*
February								
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment.

* Under 50.

Series began January 1970.

Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.

Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

MONTANA HOURS AND EARNINGS For Private Nonagricultural Industries

JANUARY 1977

	<u>Average Weekly Earnings</u>			<u>Average Weekly Hours</u>			<u>Average Hourly Earnings</u>		
	Jan. 1977	Dec. 1976	Jan. 1976	Jan. 1977	Dec. 1976	Jan. 1976	Jan. 1977	Dec. 1976	Jan. 1976
TOTAL PRIVATE	\$175.51	\$175.78	\$165.89	35.6	35.8	36.3	\$4.93	\$4.91	\$4.57
MANUFACTURING	255.68	252.62	214.50	42.9	42.6	38.1	5.96	5.93	5.63
Durable Goods	260.34	256.08	216.76	44.2	43.7	38.5	5.89	5.86	5.63
Primary Metal Industries	282.04	279.10	259.38	40.0	40.1	39.6	7.06	6.96	6.55
Nondurable Goods	244.99	243.39	208.31	39.9	39.9	37.0	6.14	6.10	5.63
Food and Kindred Products	220.86	223.17	191.38	40.6	41.1	37.6	5.44	5.43	5.09
MINING	340.50	332.55	303.52	45.4	45.0	45.1	7.50	7.39	6.73
Metal Mining	338.10	338.10	315.90	44.9	44.9	45.0	7.53	7.53	7.02
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	328.64	329.73	306.93	38.8	39.3	39.0	8.47	8.39	7.87
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	282.24	284.41	262.44	42.0	42.6	41.2	6.72	6.68	6.37
Communications, Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	256.28	256.28	235.01	42.5	42.5	39.9	6.03	6.03	5.89
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	141.23	140.54	134.97	34.7	34.7	35.8	4.07	4.05	3.77
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	129.20	127.04	121.81	36.6	36.4	36.8	3.53	3.49	3.31
SERVICES	107.82	107.22	106.59	29.3	29.7	32.3	3.68	3.61	3.30

Data for current month are preliminary.

Averages are based on gross earnings, including overtime and premium pay.

*Selected Industries series began January 1950; Total Private Sector series began January 1969 (May 1972 issue).
Prepared by U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.*

Table XVII

MONTANA LABOR TURNOVER RATES
In Manufacturing and Mining Industries
(per 100 employees)

JANUARY 1977

	ACCESSION RATES						SEPARATION RATES					
	Total			New Hires			Quits			Layoffs		
	Jan. 1977	Dec. 1976	Jan. 1976	Jan. 1977	Dec. 1976	Jan. 1976	Jan. 1977	Dec. 1976	Jan. 1976	Jan. 1977	Dec. 1976	Jan. 1976
MANUFACTURING												
Durable Goods	2.3	2.3	2.0	1.7	1.9	1.6	1.2	1.6	1.3	1.6	1.8	1.2
Primary Metal Industries	1.8	1.6	1.9	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.4	0.9	1.3
Nondurable Goods	2.9	1.6	1.2	0.9	0.7	0.2	0.7	0.5	*	*	1.7	1.1
	3.2	3.4	2.2	2.5	3.0	2.1	1.7	2.4	1.6	1.8	3.0	1.0
MINING												
Metal Mining	2.4	0.7	1.7	1.2	0.4	1.3	0.3	1.4	1.2	0.2	4.3	2.3
	1.2	1.1	0.9	0.2	0.1	*	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	4.3

* Less than .05.

Prepared by U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.
Series began January 1959.

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY INDUSTRY

New business firms in Montana are a reflection of economic activity within the business community. Data furnished on this page and the following page are an aggregate of information supplied by the office of the Montana Secretary of State and the Montana Employment Security Division. These data should in no way be construed as being absolute. They are presented to indicate business trends during the survey period.

The chart on the following page is a break-down by county and labor market area of business starts in Montana during the current month and year to date, with a comparison to the previous year.

The following chart is a break-down of new businesses by industry, with a comparison to last year.

<u>Industry</u>	<u>JAN 1977</u>	<u>JAN 1976</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	
			<u>1977</u>	<u>1976</u>
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, AND FISHERIES	29	21	29	21
MINING	20	9	20	9
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	49	39	49	39
MANUFACTURING	8	10	8	10
TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATION, ELECTRIC, GAS, AND SANITARY SERVICES	7	5	7	5
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	73	50	73	50
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	27	30	27	30
SERVICES	109	102	109	102
GOVERNMENT	0	0	0	0
NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>
STATE TOTAL	323	266	323	266

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY LABOR MARKET AREA

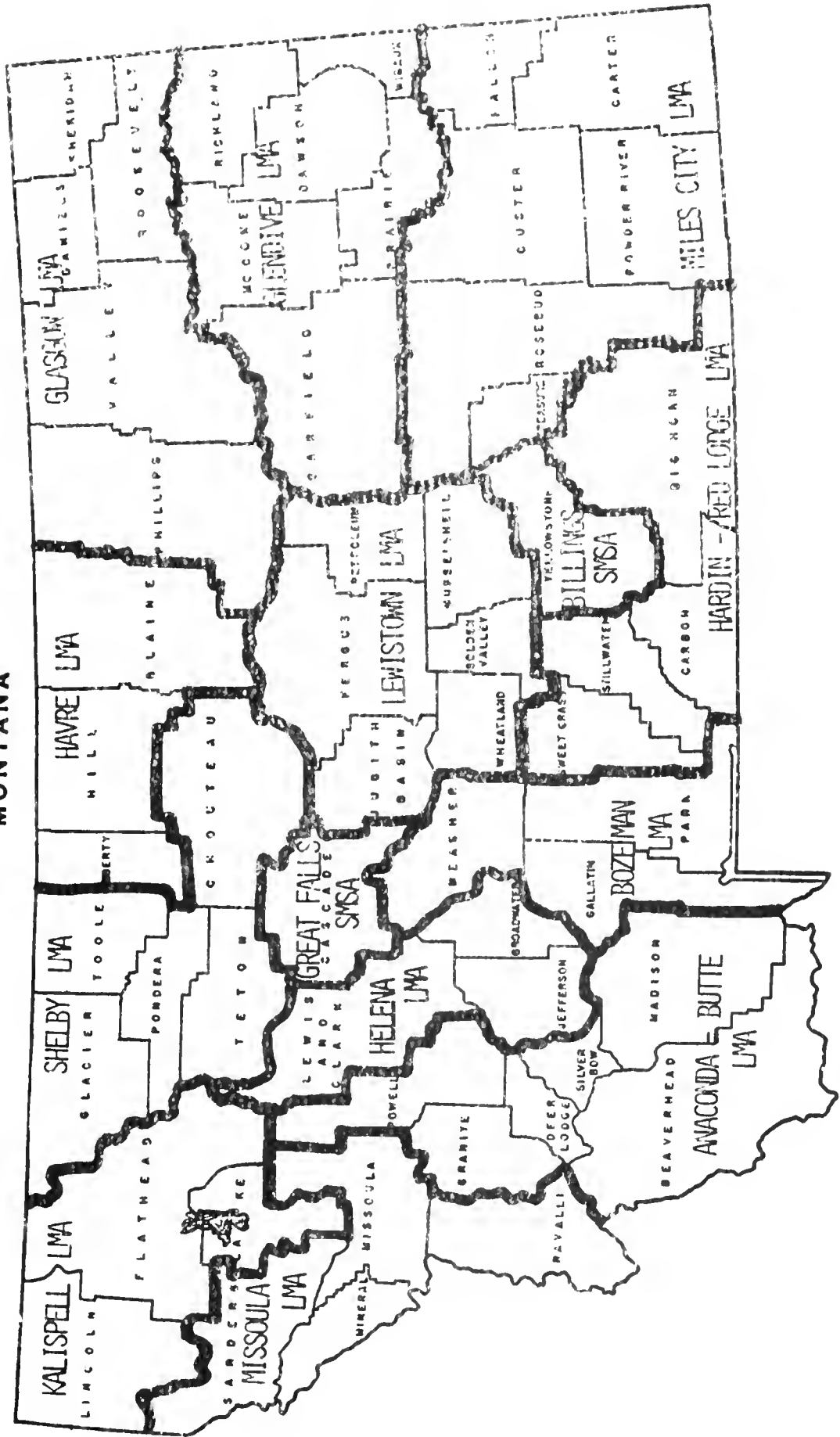
NEW BUSINESS FIRMS					NEW BUSINESS FIRMS				
Areas	JAN. 1977	JAN. 1976	Year to Date		Areas	JAN 1977	JAN 1976	Year to Date	
			1977	1977				1977	1976
STATE OF MONTANA	323	266	323	266	HAVRE LMA	8	10	8	10
					Blaine	0	2	0	2
GREAT FALLS SMSA	27	35	27	35	Hill	1	8	1	8
					Liberty	7	0	7	0
BILLINGS SMSA	43	38	43	38	HELENA LMA	15	19	15	19
					Broadwater	0	0	0	0
					Jefferson	0	2	0	2
					Lewis and Clark	15	17	15	17
ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA	39	20	39	20	KALISPELL LMA	38	31	38	31
Beaverhead	2	2	2	2	Flathead	18	23	18	23
Deer Lodge	0	1	0	1	Lake	12	6	12	6
Granite	0	0	0	0	Lincoln	8	2	8	2
Madison	2	0	2	0	LEWISTOWN LMA	7	6	7	6
Powell	0	2	0	2	Fergus	7	5	7	5
Silver Bow	35	15	35	15	Golden Valley	0	0	0	0
BOZEMAN LMA	34	14	34	14	Judith Basin	0	0	0	0
Gallatin	21	12	21	12	Musselshell	0	1	0	1
Meagher	1	0	1	0	Petroleum	0	0	0	0
Park	12	2	12	2	Wheatland	0	0	0	0
GLASGOW LMA	13	12	13	12	MILES CITY LMA	11	11	11	11
Danics	0	2	0	2	Carter	2	0	2	0
Phillips	1	0	1	0	Custer	6	6	6	6
Roosevelt	1	5	1	5	Fallon	1	3	1	3
Sheridan	4	3	4	3	Powder River	0	0	0	0
Valley	7	2	7	2	Rosebud	2	2	2	2
GLENDIVE LMA	6	11	6	11	Treasure	0	0	0	0
Dawson	1	3	1	3	MISSOULA LMA	51	38	51	38
Garfield	2	1	2	1	Mineral	0	0	0	0
McCone	0	4	0	4	Missoula	42	28	42	28
Prairie	1	2	1	2	Ravalli	7	7	7	7
Richland	2	1	2	1	Sanders	2	3	2	3
Wibaux	0	0	0	0	SHELBY-CUT BANK LMA	26	14	26	14
HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA	5	7	5	7	Chouteau	0	1	0	1
Big Horn	3	2	3	2	Glacier	2	5	2	5
Carbon	1	4	1	4	Pondera	13	1	13	1
Stillwater	1	1	1	1	Teton	2	4	2	4
Sweet Grass	0	0	0	0	Toole	9	3	9	3

Source of data: State of Montana Employment Security Division, Research and Analysis Section; Montana Secretary of State.

LABOR MARKET AREAS

IN

MONTANA



EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
P. O. Box 1728
Helena, Montana 59601

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
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OFFICIAL BUSINESS

The Montana State Employment Service maintains 23 local employment offices in the principal cities of Montana. You are invited to call on any of these offices for assistance in filling positions in your organization, additional labor market information, and for other services in connection with your employment problems.